



Brownfields Supplemental Assistance

City of Marlborough, MA

BACKGROUND

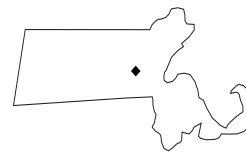
EPA awarded the City of Marlborough supplemental assistance for its Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot. Marlborough (population 31,800) is one of 19 Massachusetts communities designated by the state as a mini-entitlement community, which provides funding to eliminate slums and blight in the downtown area. Although Marlborough's economy has been growing in recent years with new homes, hotels, and business parks, this development has occurred primarily on the city's outer edge. Marlborough's downtown has been unable to attract businesses and provide new jobs because of the potential liability of the area's brownfields. In recent years, redevelopment of brownfields has been a key element in the city's revitalization efforts.

The original EPA Pilot conducted assessments at four properties, one of which recently has been completed. Initial testing has revealed some contamination at three sites, but further testing is required to determine the extent of contamination. Marlborough will use supplemental funding to complete site testing and cleanup planning for the three sites, which are located in the heart of the city—the Old Train Depot site, Seymour Oil Storage site, and Frye Shoe Manufacturing Company site.

OBJECTIVES AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Supplemental funding will be used to conduct Phase II and Phase III environmental site assessments at the three target sites. Preliminary site investigation of the 2.3 acre Old Train Depot site at the terminus of the Assabet River Rail Trail (ARRT) detected petroleum hydrocarbons and other related contaminants. The city plans to purchase the property for a municipal park, but the extent and cost of cleanup must be determined before a purchase price can be negotiated. The Seymour Oil Storage site consists of two parcels adjacent to the ARRT that were the location of the turn-around for trains at the terminus of the Fitchburg Line. Soil and groundwater testing at the site, for

PILOT SNAPSHOT



*City of Marlborough,
Massachusetts*

Date of Announcement:
May 2002

Amount: \$ 150,000

Profile: The Pilot will complete site testing and remediation planning for three target sites within a one-mile radius in the heart of the city, including two sites adjacent to the Assabet River Rail Trail.

Contacts:

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Visit the EPA Region 1 Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields/>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
www.epa.gov/brownfields

which a municipal parking lot is planned, have identified the presence of metals and petroleum hydrocarbons at significant concentrations. The third site is the 1.4 acre former tannery site, which once was the location of the Frye Shoe Manufacturing Company. Metals, petroleum hydrocarbons, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) have been found in site soils, and groundwater data indicate the presence of cyanide compounds. The city is exploring the possibility of redeveloping the property for an assisted living facility for low-income seniors.

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Conducting Phase II environmental site assessments for the Old Train Depot site, the Seymour Oil Storage site, and the former tannery site; and
- Conducting Phase III cleanup/feasibility studies for the Seymour Oil Storage and Former Tannery sites.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.